

# TAOS PUEBLO

OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

175 Rio Lucero Road

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**TAOS PUEBLO ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAM**

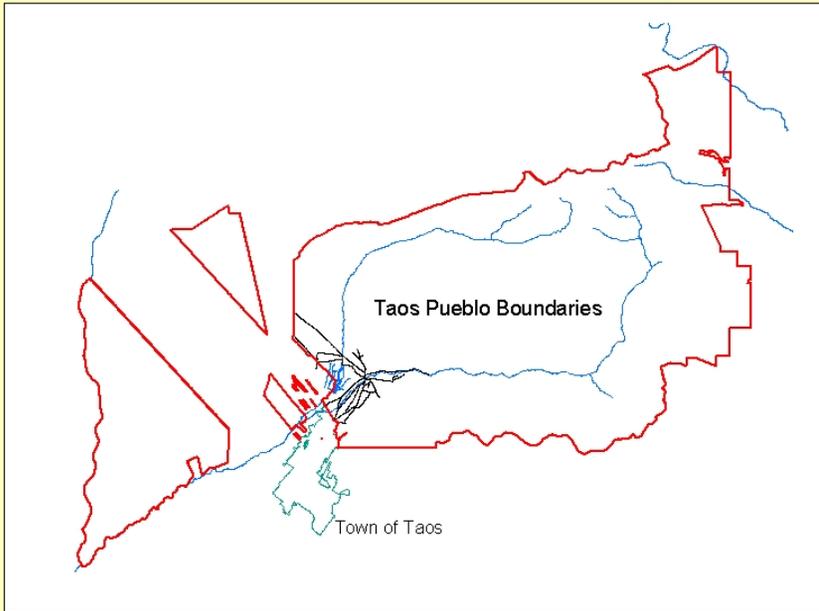
***EPA General Assistance Program (GAP)***

***EPA Clean Air Act***

***EPA Clean Water Act***

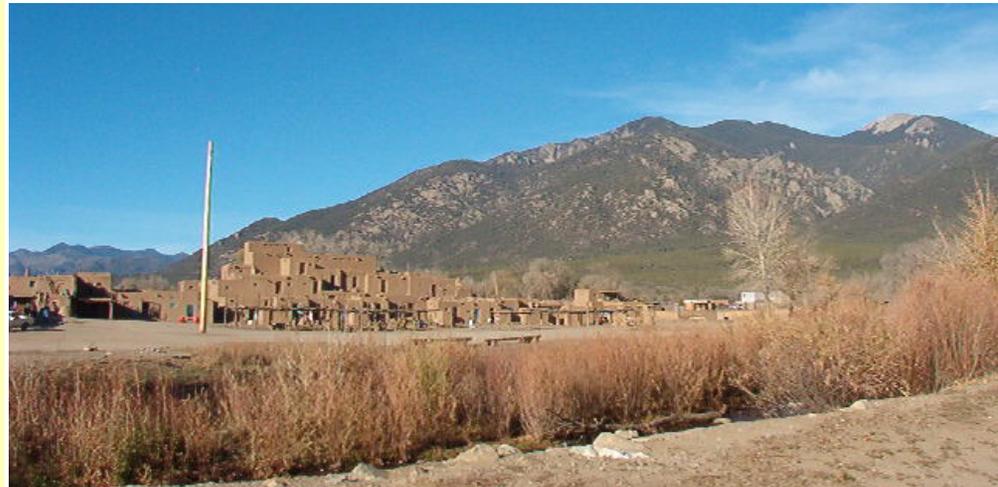
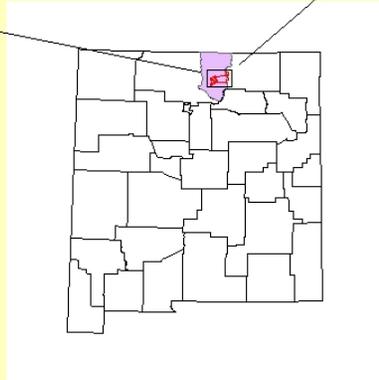
***EPA Tribal Radon Grant***

# Pueblo of Taos



## Taos Pueblo

Taos County, New Mexico



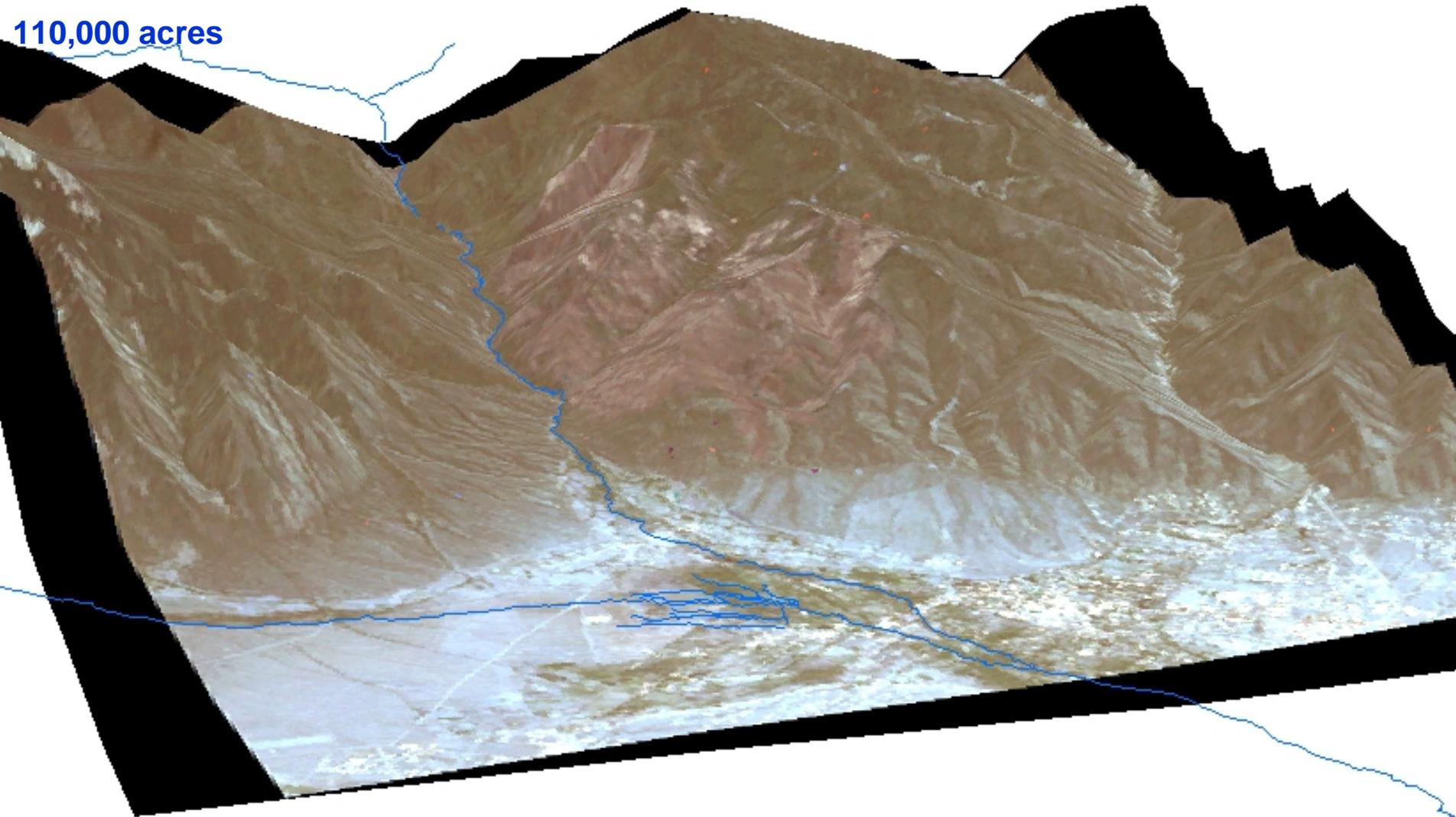
**Located in Northern New Mexico along the Sangre de Cristo Mountains**

**Designated World Heritage Site (1992)**

**Tribal Enrollment: 2,500 members**

**Elevation: 7600**

**110,000 acres**



**At Taos Pueblo, we value interaction with Nature as the true source of our existence. The mountains surrounding the Pueblo are sacred, thus the Tribe does not allow timbering, mining, or grazing in the sensitive watersheds of the Rio Lucero and Rio Pueblo.**

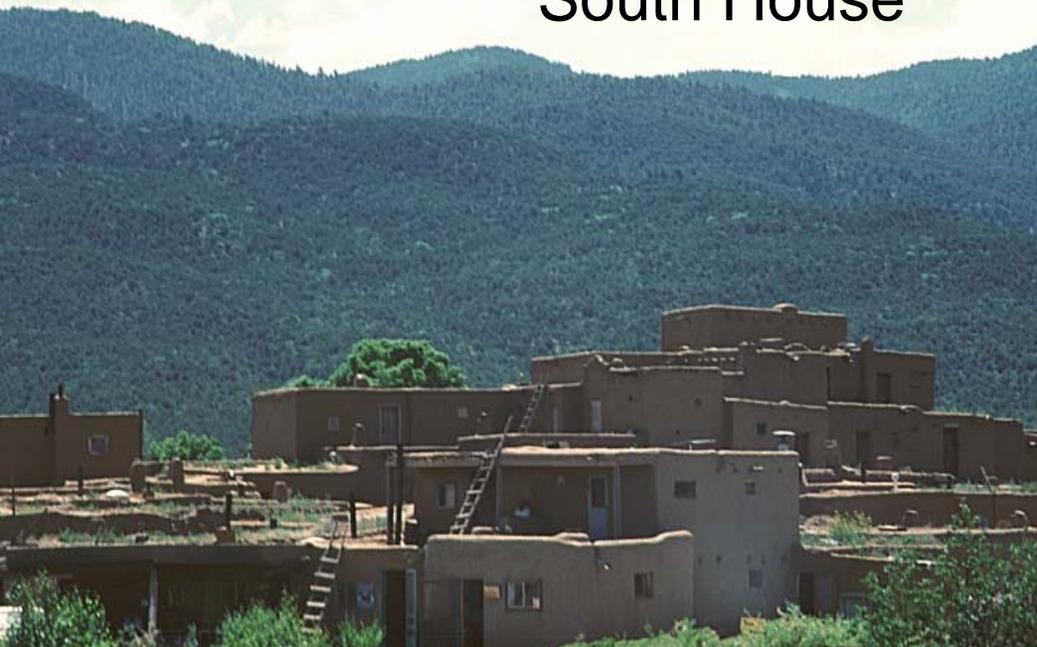


**Up until the early 1900's the Pueblo managed their lands and resources with relative autonomy. For the better half of the 20th century, our grandfathers and grandmothers fought the United States government for the return of the lands which were illegally added into the U.S. Forest system created by President Teddy Roosevelt, in a 1906 Executive Order passed by Teddy Roosevelt. As a result, teddy bears are not permitted at Taos Pueblo.**



**North House**

**South House**



**Misunderstandings and the Termination era policies required the people of the Pueblo to obtain a permit to use the land for religious purposes. The Pueblo filed suit to regain its land on the grounds the federal government was restricting freedom of worship. After a 65 year battle with the federal government the United States returned the land to the Taos Pueblo**

# Purpose

The purpose of the Environmental Program is to assist Tribal Government in the Protection of the Environment and Public Health through the development of policies and codes, investigations and studies, and analysis of proposed actions by adjacent jurisdictions to ensure the Pueblo's interests are protected.

# Overview

*The Taos Pueblo Environmental Department is comprised of several U.S. EPA grant programs under the supervision of the Director.*

*General Assistance Program which allows the Pueblo to maintain an environmental presence;*

*Clean Water Act section 106 grant program;*

*Clean Air Act section 103 grant;*

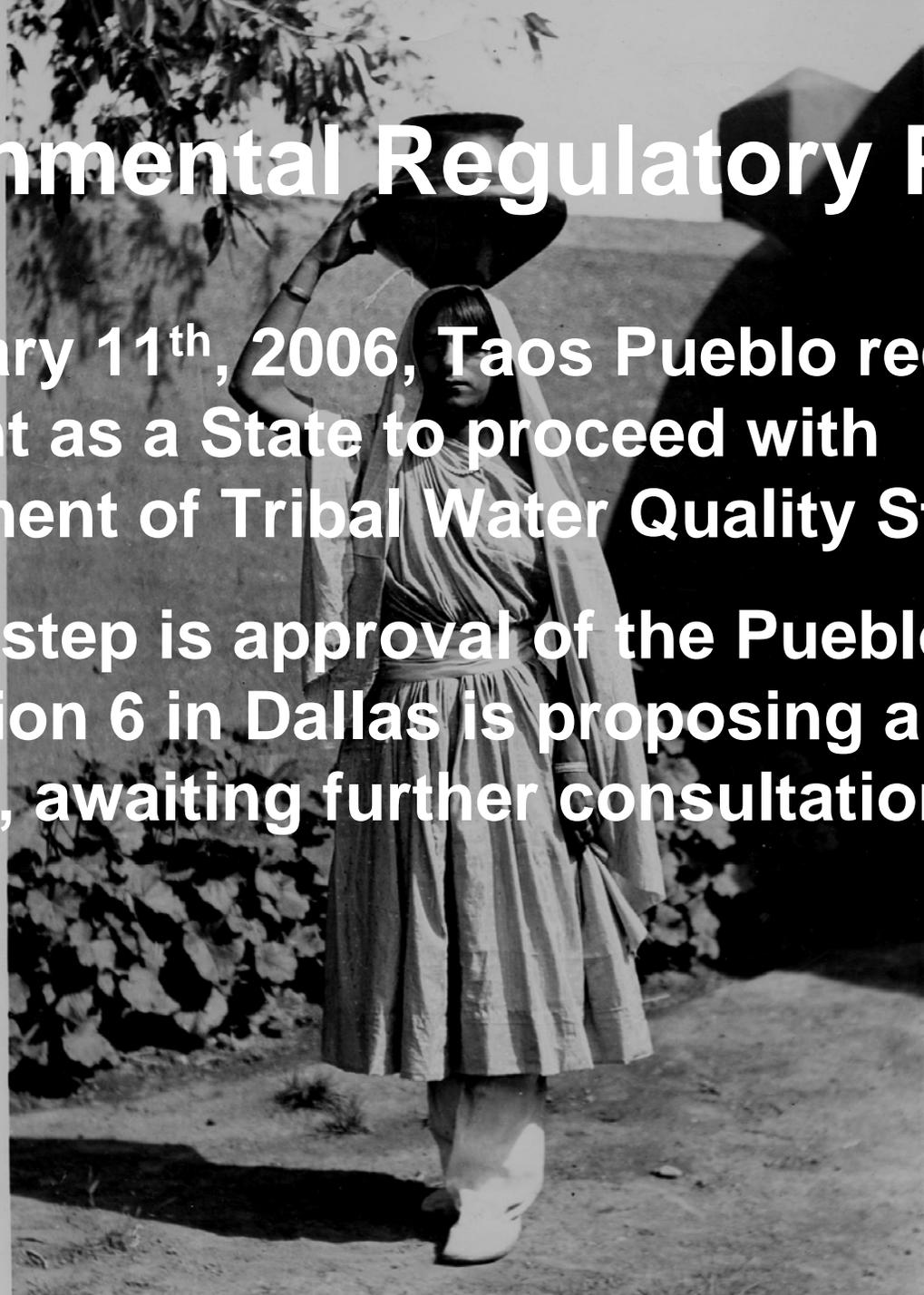
*Radon program to test tribal homes and offices.*

# Staff

- 
- Robert Gomez, Director*
  - Flowers Espinosa, Air Quality Specialist*
  - Evelyn Martinez, Environmental Specialist*
  - Shannon Martinez, Environmental Technician*
  - Jeff Ogburn, Water Quality Specialist*

# Environmental Regulatory Program

- On January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2006, Taos Pueblo received Treatment as a State to proceed with development of Tribal Water Quality Standards.
- The next step is approval of the Pueblos WQS, EPA Region 6 in Dallas is proposing a Partial Approval, awaiting further consultation.



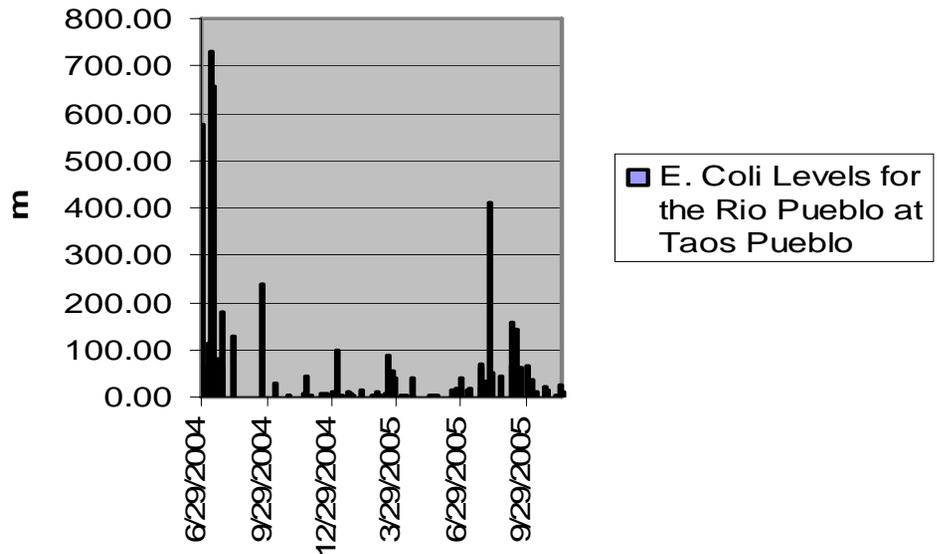
# Bacteria Monitoring

**E. coli bacteria is monitored within the village 5 times per month, throughout the year.**



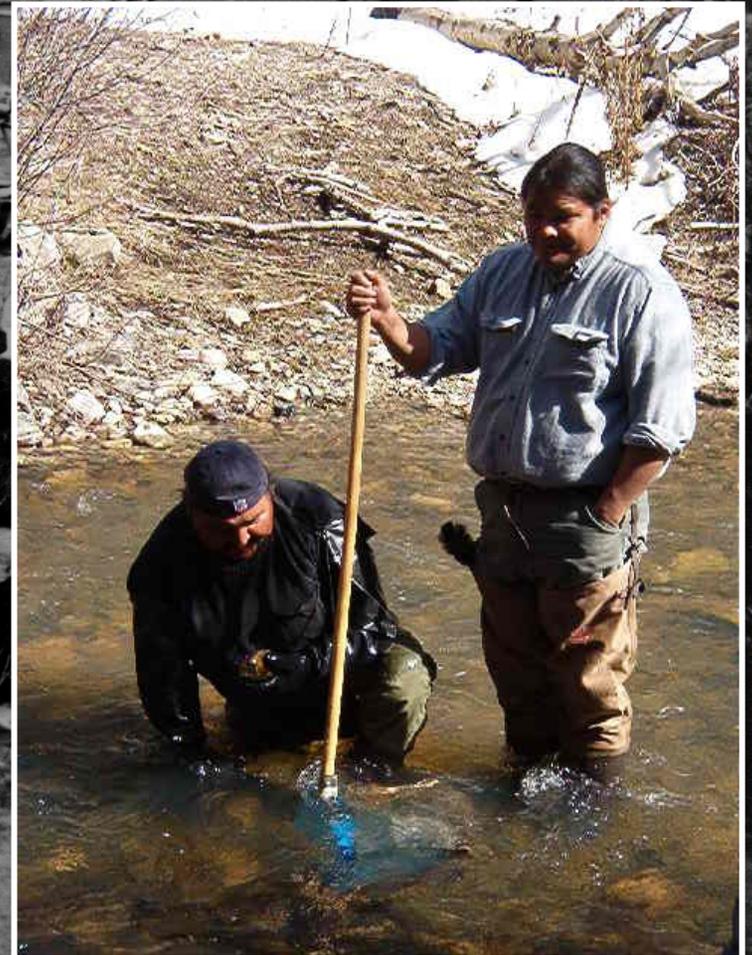
Most Probable Number of Colonies per 100 m

E. Coli Levels for the Rio Pueblo at Taos Pueblo



# Benthic Macro Invertebrate Monitoring

Aquatic Insects indicate impacts from pollution through species composition and abundance



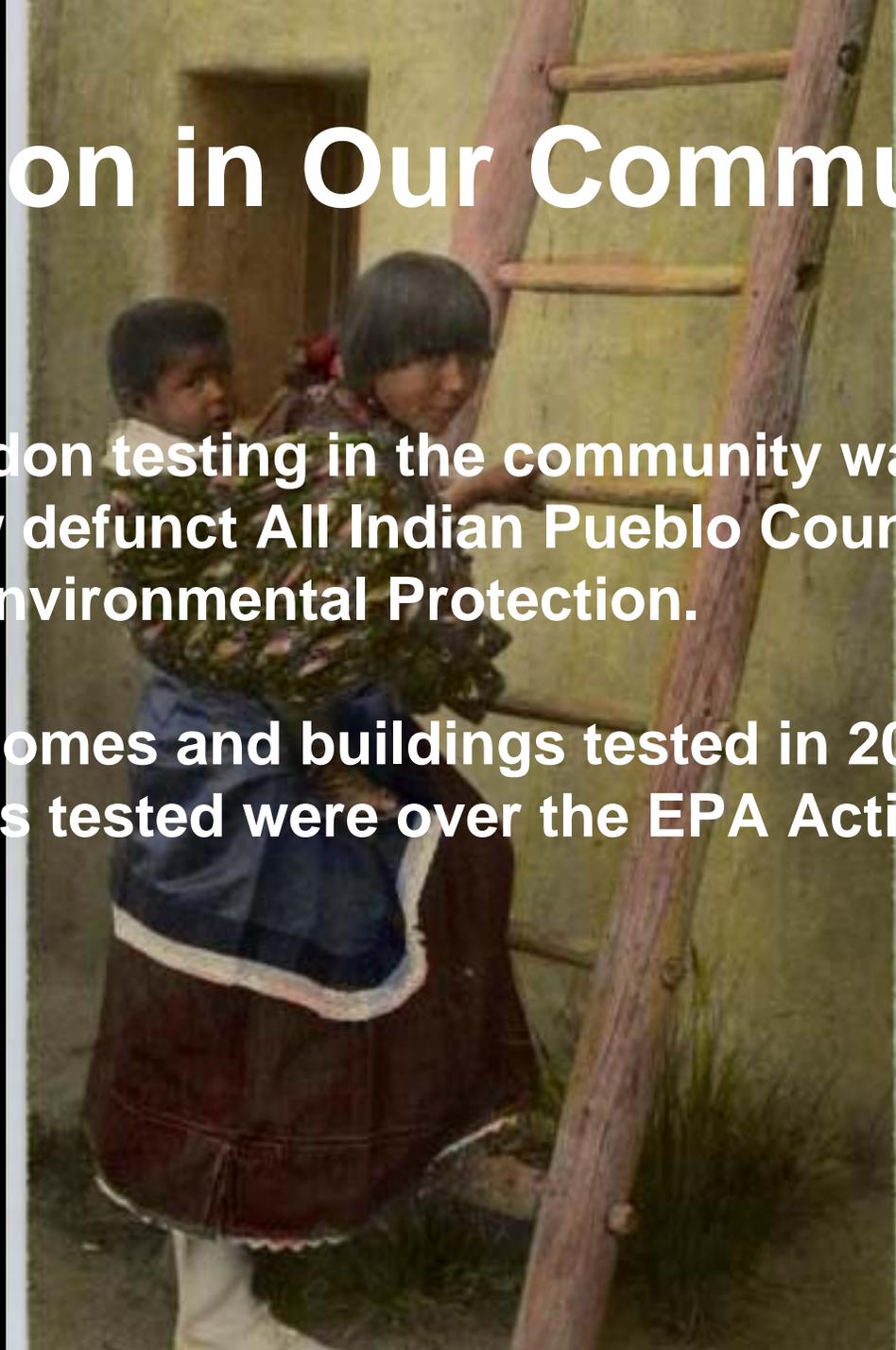
Air is the most immediate contact we have with the environment. The air we breathe should be a constant reminder of how dependant we are on the environment.



# Radon in Our Community

In 2000, radon testing in the community was conducted by the now defunct All Indian Pueblo Council, Pueblo Office of Environmental Protection.

Of the 54 homes and buildings tested in 2000, over 69% of buildings tested were over the EPA Action Level.



# Tribal Air Quality Program

## Scope of Work:

To build capacity to operate an Air Program to protect and preserve the Air Quality

 Goal 1: Continue Capacity Building.

 Goal 2: Establish baseline conditions with an Emissions Inventory to include: a) establishing the FY05 EI, b) distribute documents c) input EI results into a NEI database d) Submit EI and progress reports to EPA, e) categorize sources.

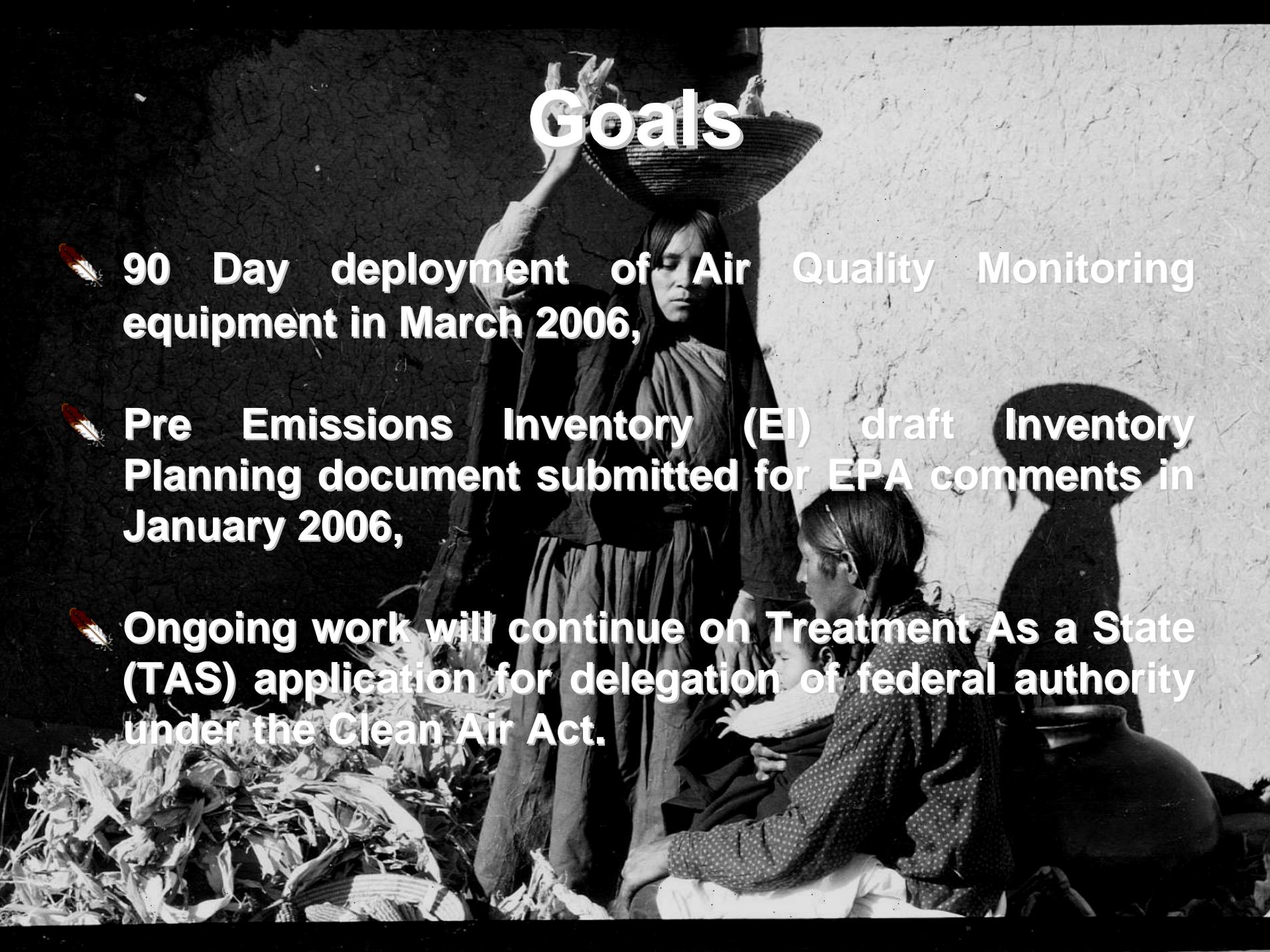
 Goal 3: Continue to Conduct Public Outreach and disseminate information to the Taos Pueblo about air quality and health related issues.

 Goal 4: Contract and Grant Administration.

# Taos Pueblo Air Program History

- Applied for CAA section 103 grant 2002
- Reapplied for CAA 2<sup>nd</sup> Phase of section 103 grant 2005
- Closed out first Air Grant January 2005

# Goals



- ✿ **90 Day deployment of Air Quality Monitoring equipment in March 2006,**
- ✿ **Pre Emissions Inventory (EI) draft Inventory Planning document submitted for EPA comments in January 2006,**
- ✿ **Ongoing work will continue on Treatment As a State (TAS) application for delegation of federal authority under the Clean Air Act.**

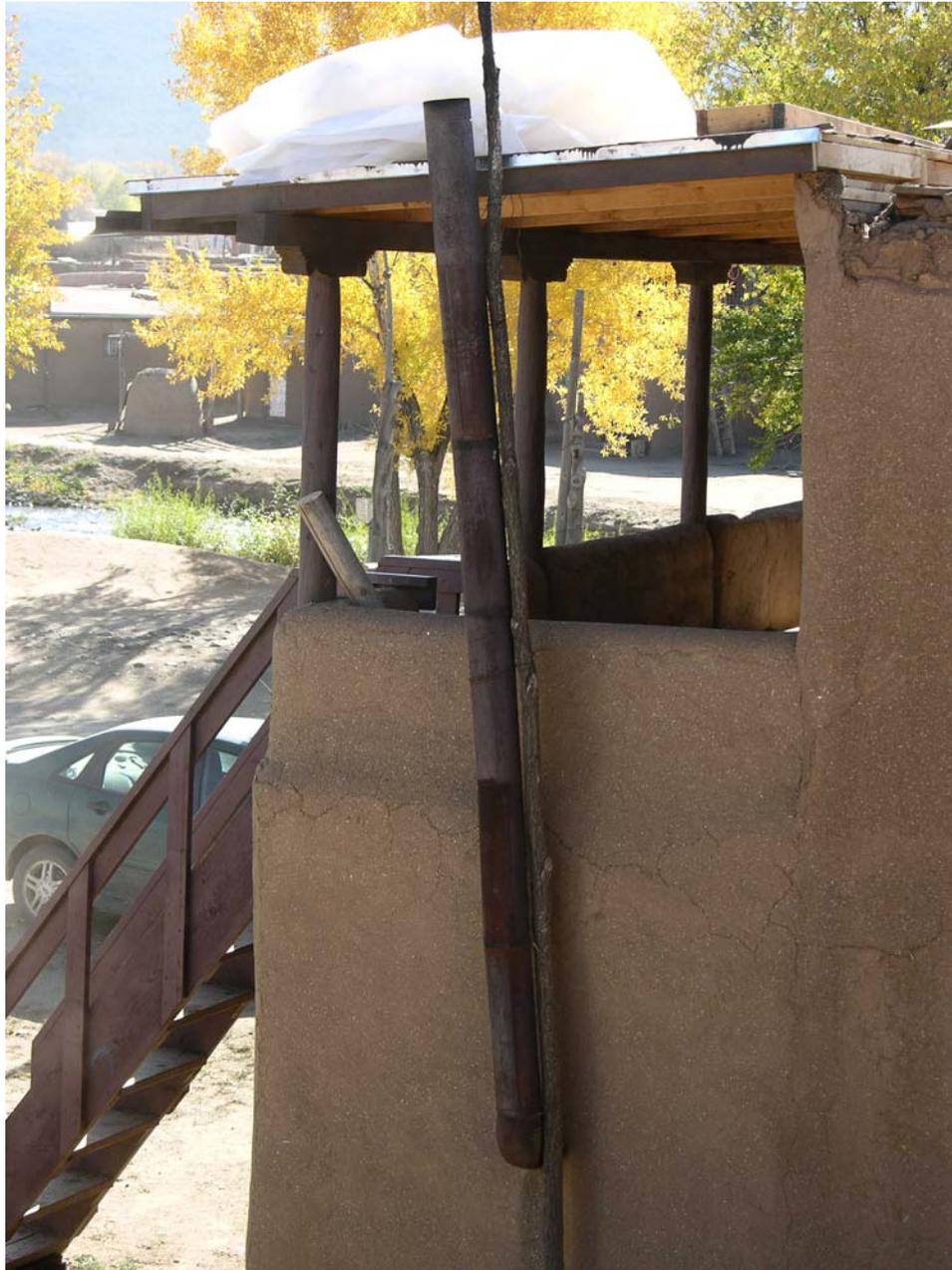
**r Pollution is a Human Health Concern  
and  
Impairs Cultural Resources**





















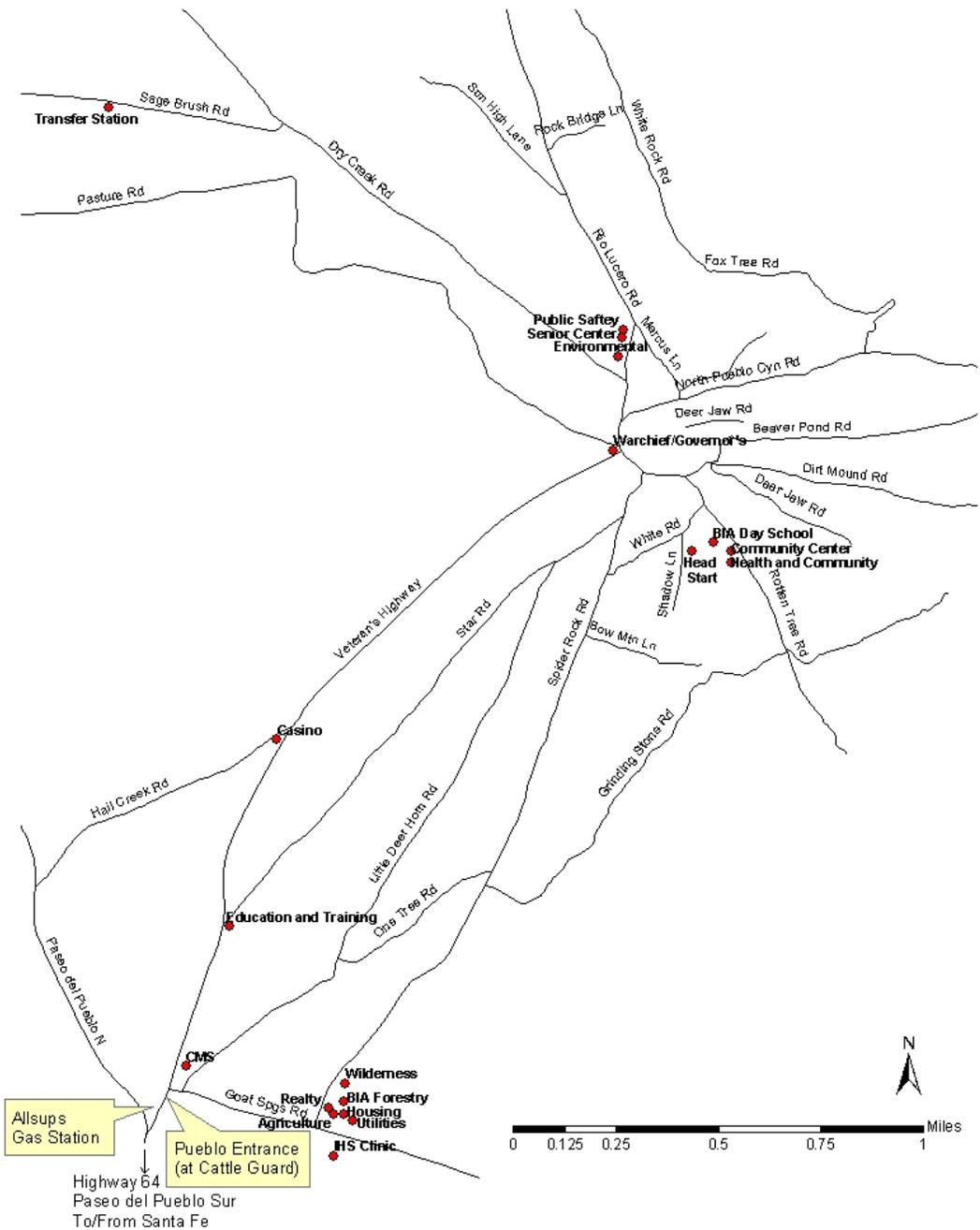
VISITOR  
PARKING  
←

← TOWN PEOPLE →  
VISITOR PARKING

ROTTEN TREE RD



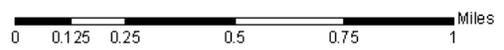




Allsup's Gas Station

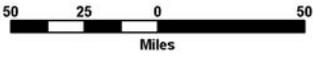
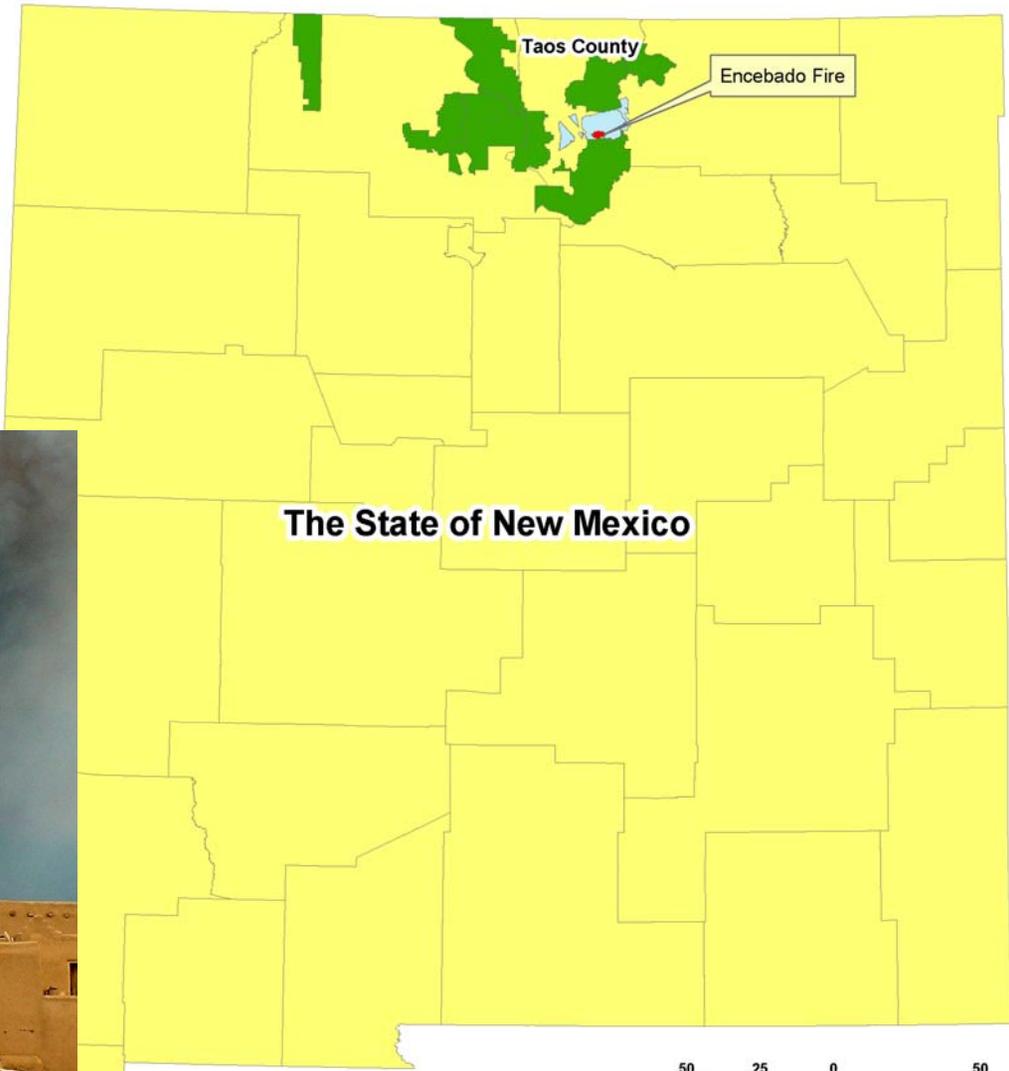
Pueblo Entrance (at Cattle Guard)

Highway 64  
Paseo del Pueblo Sur  
To/From Santa Fe

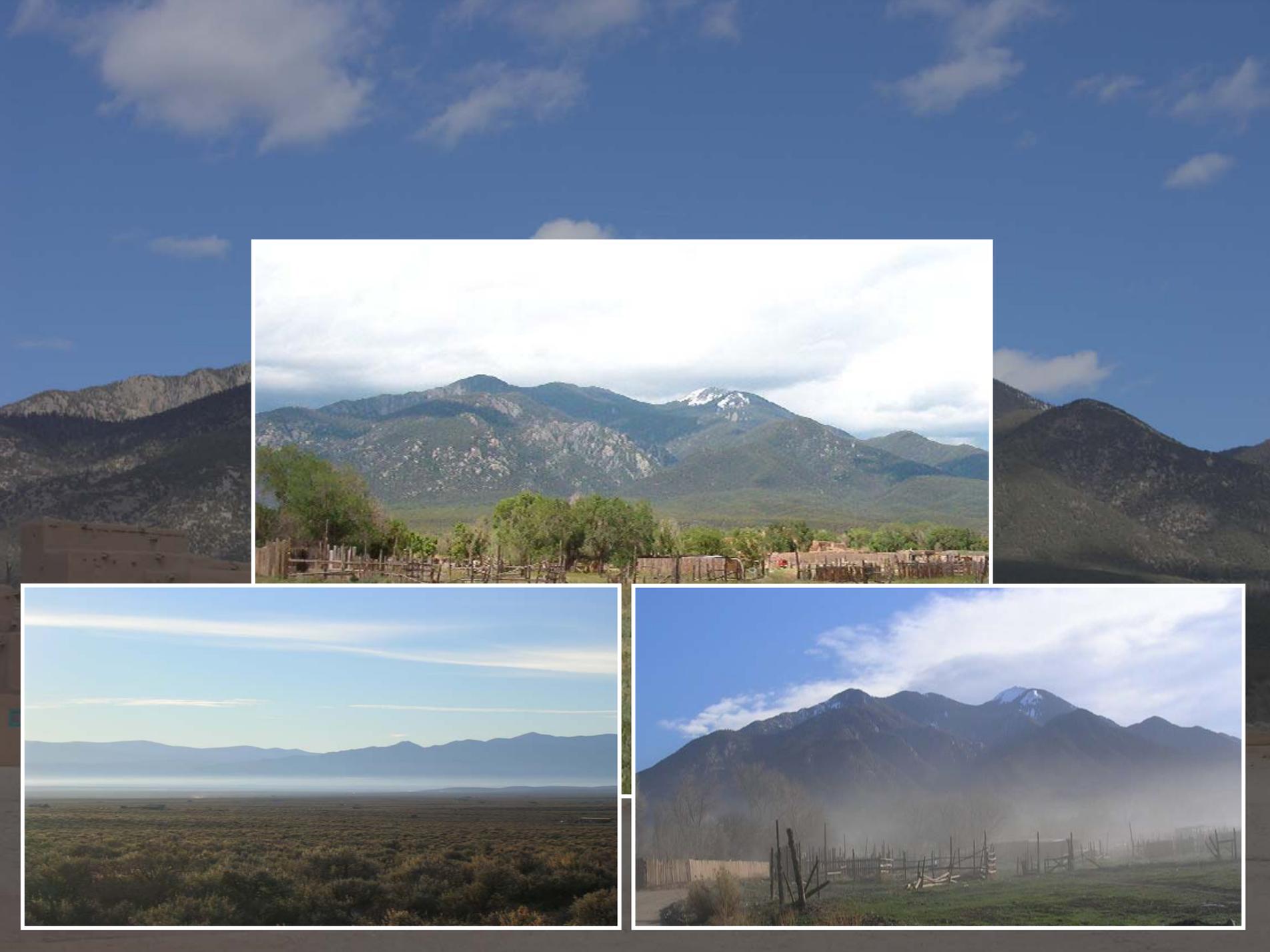




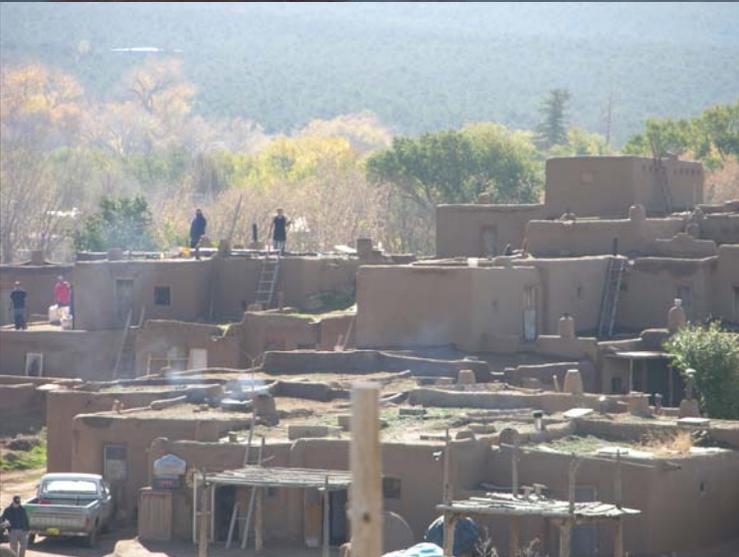
# Encebado Fire Location



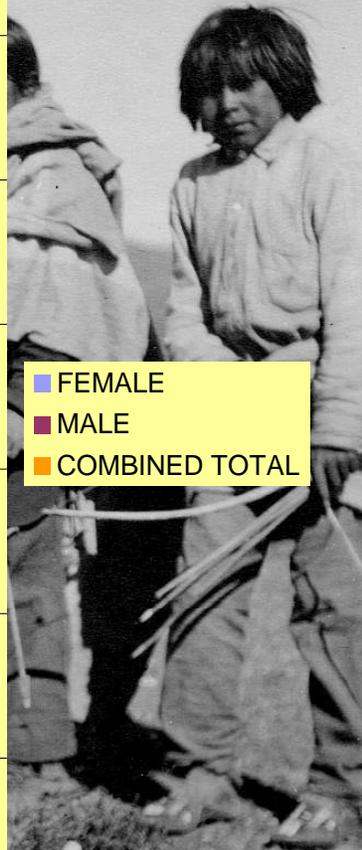
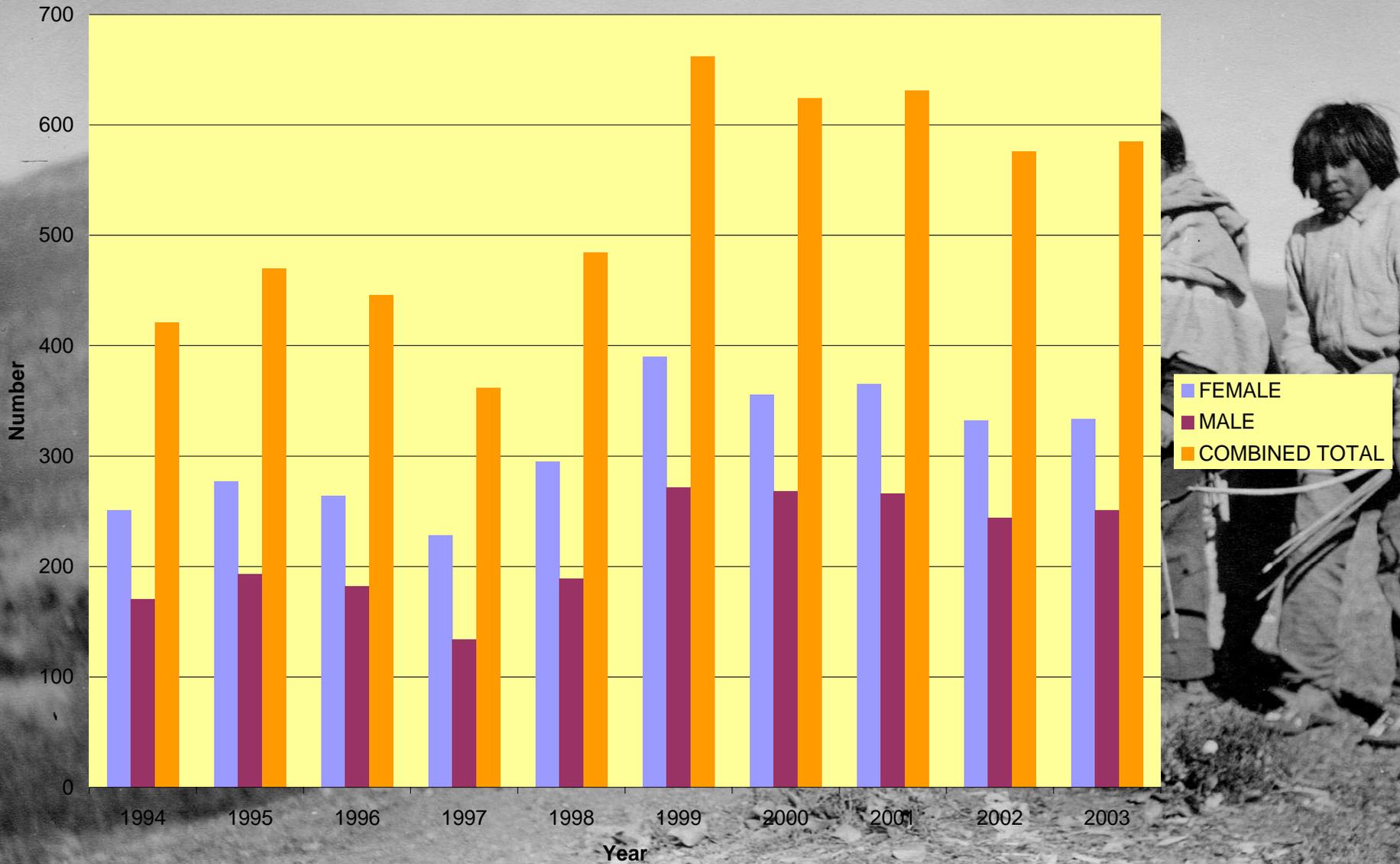
-  Encebado Fire
-  Taos Pueblo Reservation
-  Carson National Forest



# Wood Smoke



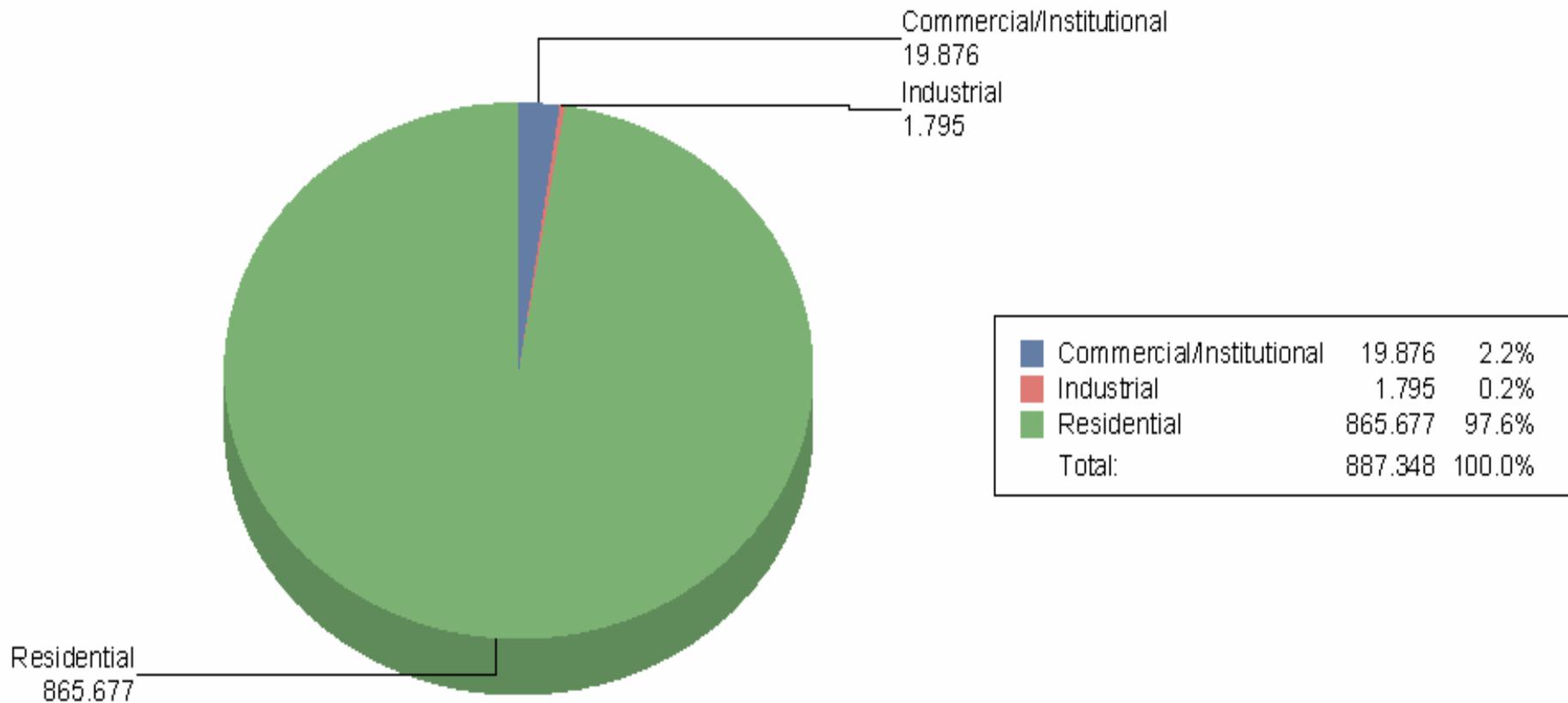
## Diagnosed Respiratory Illness Females and Males from the Taos Pueblo Community



# New Mexico - Taos County

Start Date: 1/1/2003 12:00:00AM  
End Date: 12/31/2003 12:00:00AM

## SCC2 Category: Stationary Source Fuel Combustion Pollutant: CO - CARBON MONOXIDE

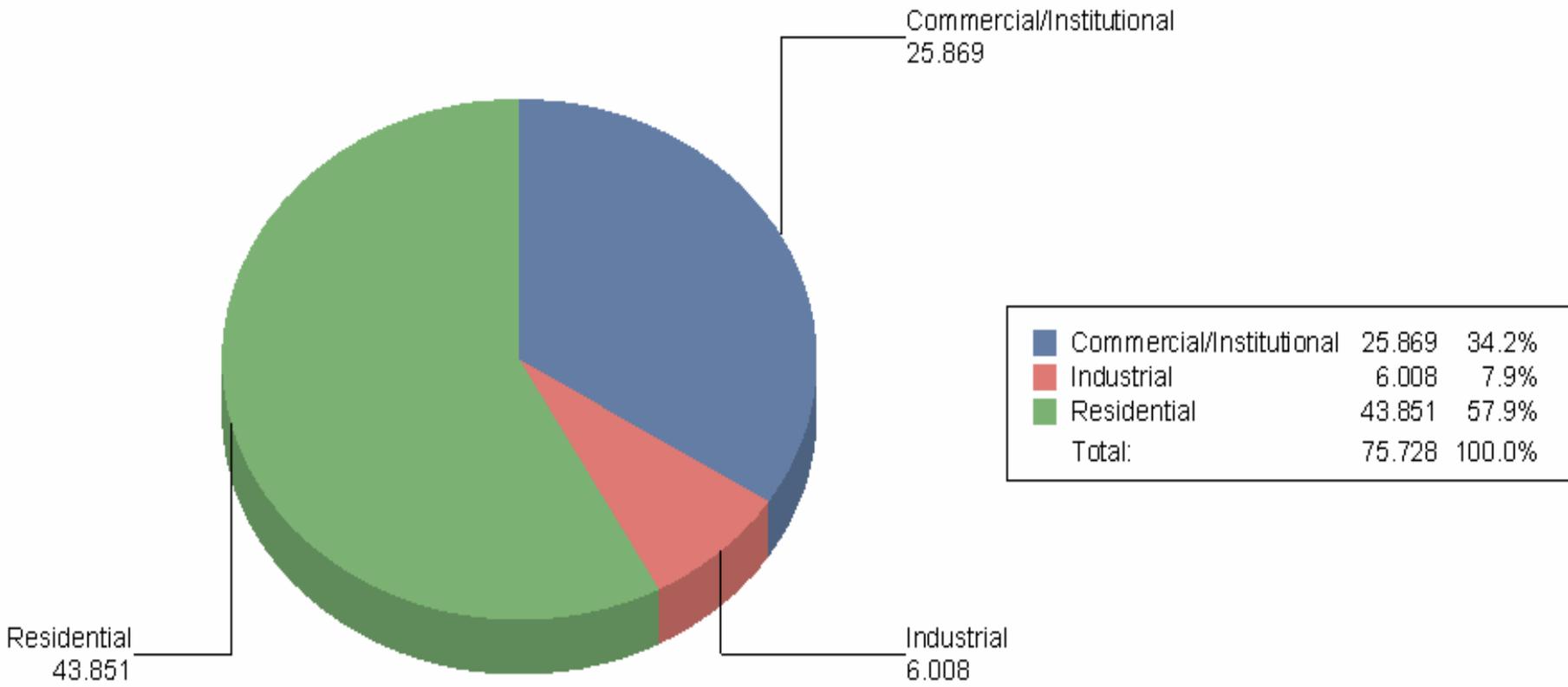


**Total Emissions: 887.348 [tons]**

# New Mexico - Taos County

Start Date: 1/1/2003 12:00:00AM  
End Date: 12/31/2003 12:00:00AM

## SCC2 Category: Stationary Source Fuel Combustion Pollutant: NOX - NITROGEN OXIDES

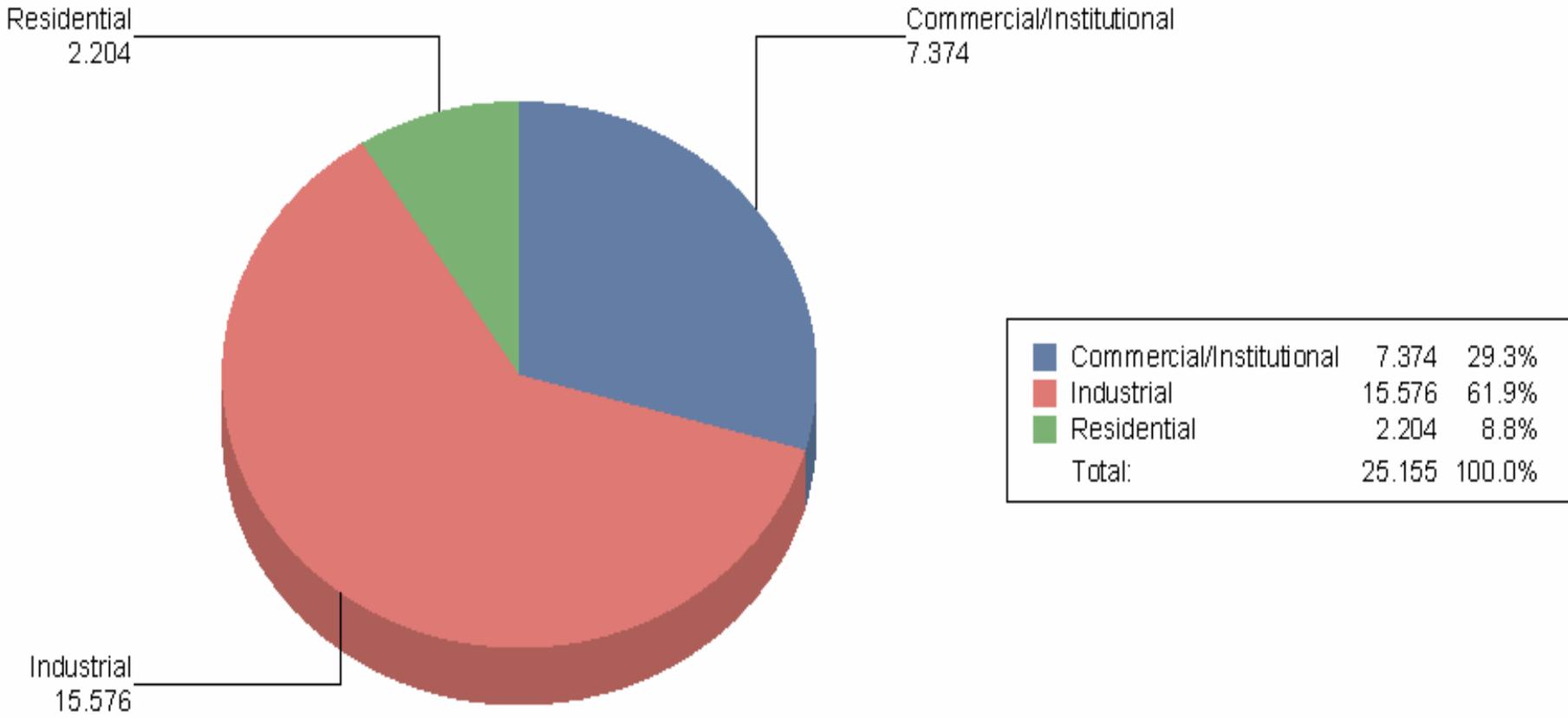


From Taos Pueblo Environmental Office – Air Program Emissions Inventory

# New Mexico - Taos County

Start Date: 1/1/2003 12:00:00AM  
End Date: 12/31/2003 12:00:00AM

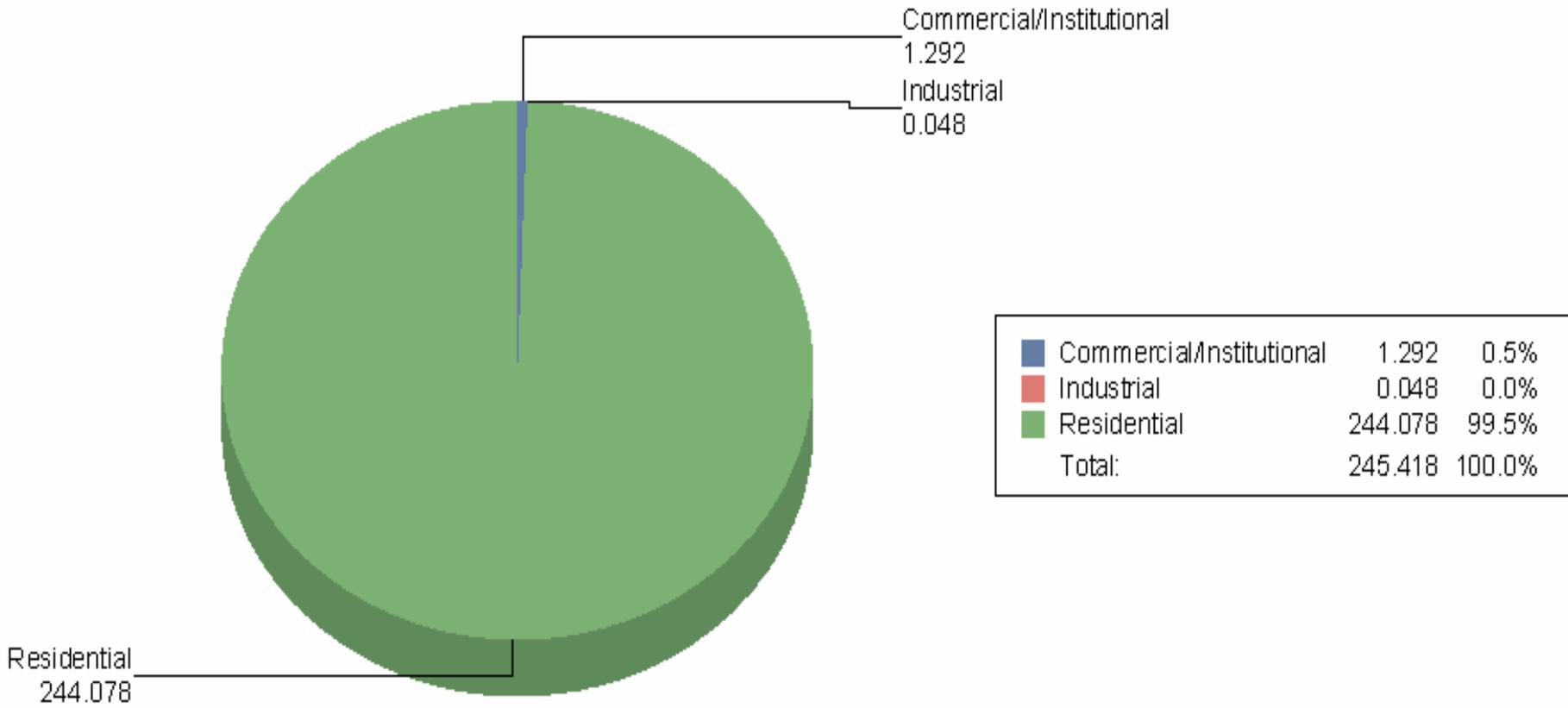
## SCC2 Category: Stationary Source Fuel Combustion Pollutant: Sulfur Dioxide



# New Mexico - Taos County

Start Date: 1/1/2003 12:00:00AM  
End Date: 12/31/2003 12:00:00AM

## SCC2 Category: Stationary Source Fuel Combustion Pollutant: Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs)





# **TAOS PUEBLO**

## **CONTACT INFORMATION:**

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**Air Quality Specialist**  
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